

## Rural Utilities Service, USDA

## § 1780.7

*Project* means all activity that an applicant is currently undertaking to be financed in whole or part with RUS assistance.

*Protective advances* are payments made by a lender for items such as insurance or taxes in order to preserve and protect the security or the lien or priority of the lien securing the loan.

*Rural and rural areas* means any area not in a city or town with a population in excess of 10,000 inhabitants, according to the latest decennial census of the United States.

*Rural Development* means the mission area of the Under Secretary for Rural Development. Rural Development State and local offices will administer this water and waste program on behalf of the Rural Utilities Service.

*RUS* means the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture established pursuant to section 232 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-354, 108 Stat. 3178), successor to the Farmer's Home Administration and the Rural Development Administration with respect to certain water and waste disposal loan and grant programs.

*Service area* means the area reasonably expected to be served by the project.

*Servicing office* means the office designated by the State program official to service water and waste disposal loans and grants.

*Similar system cost* means the average annual EDU user cost of a system within a community having similar economic conditions and being served by the same type of established system. Similar system cost shall include all charges, taxes, and assessments attributable to the system including debt service, reserves and operation and maintenance costs.

*State program official* means the USDA official at the State level who has been delegated the responsibility of administering the water and waste disposal programs under this regulation for a particular State or States.

*Statewide nonmetropolitan median household income* means the median household income of all rural areas of a state.

(b) *Rules of grammatical construction.* Unless the context otherwise indicates, "includes" and "including" are not limiting, and "or" is not exclusive. The terms defined in paragraph (a) of this section include the plural as well as the singular, and the singular as well as the plural.

### § 1780.4 Availability of forms and regulations.

Information about the availability of forms, instructions, regulations, bulletins, OMB Circulars, Treasury Circulars, standards, documents and publications cited in this part is available from any USDA/Rural Development office or the Rural Utilities Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1500.

### § 1780.5 [Reserved]

### § 1780.6 Application information.

(a) The Rural Development State Director in each State will determine the office and staff that will be responsible for delivery of the program (processing office) and designate an approving office. Applications will be accepted by the processing office.

(b) The applicant's governing body should designate one person to act as contact person with the Agency during loan and grant processing. Agency personnel should make every effort to involve the applicant's contact person when meeting with the applicant's professional consultants or agents.

### § 1780.7 Eligibility.

Facilities financed by water and waste disposal loans or grants must serve rural areas.

(a) *Eligible applicant.* An applicant must be:

(1) A public body, such as a municipality, county, district, authority, or other political subdivision of a state, territory or commonwealth;

(2) An organization operated on a not-for-profit basis, such as an association, cooperative, or private corporation. The organization must be an association controlled by a local public body or bodies, or have a broadly based ownership by or membership of people of the local community; or